In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 16-20 from prosecution, without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

A. Marked-Up Version Per 37 CFR 1.121(c)

1. (Once Amended) A composition for filling a void in an orthopedic joint or between bone separations, the composition comprising:

a polymeric matrix selected from a group consisting of gutta percha, balata, and polyisoprene, and any mixtures thereof; and

a dispersion phase disposed at least partially within the polymeric matrix, the dispersion phase comprising titanium particles less than 50 microns in size;

the composition having a resilient, non-dispersing state at or below body temperature, and heatable to a fluid state above body temperature, such that the composition may be injected into the void while in the fluid state, thereafter returning to the resilient, non-dispersing state.

2. (As Filed) The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the titanium particles are less than 50 percent by weight of the composition.

3. (As Filed) The composition as defined in claim 2, wherein the titanium particles are at least 1 percent by weight of the composition.

4. (As Filed) The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the titanium particles comprise from 20 to 50 percent by weight of the composition.

5. (As Filed) The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the dispersion phase comprises elongate titanium whiskers.

6. (As filed) The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the titanium particles are less than about 20 microns in size.

7. (As filed) The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises an additive from a group consisting of a wax and a resin, and any mixtures thereof, to facilitate flow of the composition.

8. (As Filed) The composition as defined in claim 1, further comprising[:] a zinc additive up to 10 percent by weight of the composition.

9. (As Filed) The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition is housed in a compressible tube.

10. (As Filed) The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition is housed in a syringe.

11. (Once Amended) A composition for filling a void of an orthopedic joint or between bone separations, the composition having a resilient, non-dispersing state at body temperature, and heatable to a fluid state for injection into the void, the composition comprising:

a polymeric matrix selected from a group consisting of gutta percha, balata, and polyisoprene, and any mixtures thereof; and

titanium particles less than 50 microns in size, the titanium particles comprising between 1 and 50 percent by weight of the composition;

the composition having a resilient, non-dispersing state at or below body temperature, and heatable to a fluid state above body temperature, such that the composition may be injected into the void <u>while in the fluid state</u>, thereafter returning to the resilient, non-dispersing state.

12. (Once Amended) The composition as defined in claim [1] <u>11</u>, wherein the titanium particles comprise from 20 to 50 percent by weight of the composition.

13. (Once Amended) The composition as defined in claim [1] 11, wherein the titanium particles comprise elongate titanium whiskers.

14. (Once Amended) The composition as defined in claim [1] 11, wherein the titanium particles are less than about 20 microns in size.

15. (Once Amended) The composition as defined in claim [1] 11, further comprising[:] a zinc additive up to 10 percent by weight of the composition.

B. Clean Version Per 37 CFR 1.121(c)

1. A composition for filling a void in an orthopedic joint or between bone separations, the composition comprising:

a polymeric matrix selected from a group consisting of gutta percha, balata, and polyisoprene, and any mixtures thereof; and

a dispersion phase disposed at least partially within the polymeric matrix, the dispersion phase comprising titanium particles less than 50 microns in size;

the composition having a resilient, non-dispersing state at or below body temperature, and heatable to a fluid state above body temperature, such that the composition may be injected into the void while in the fluid state, thereafter returning to the resilient, non-dispersing state.

2. The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the titanium particles are less than 50 percent by weight of the composition.

3. The composition as defined in claim 2, wherein the titanium particles are at least 1 percent by weight of the composition.

4. The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the titanium particles comprise from 20 to 50 percent by weight of the composition.

5. The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the dispersion phase comprises elongate titanium whiskers.

6. The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the titanium particles are less than about 20 microns in size.

7. The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises an additive from a group consisting of a wax and a resin, and any mixtures thereof, to facilitate flow of the composition.

8. The composition as defined in claim 1, further comprising a zinc additive up to 10 percent by weight of the composition.

9. The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition is housed in a compressible tube.

10. The composition as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition is housed in a syringe.

11. A composition for filling a void of an orthopedic joint or between bone separations, the composition having a resilient, non-dispersing state at body temperature, and heatable to a fluid state for injection into the void, the composition comprising:

a polymeric matrix selected from a group consisting of gutta percha, balata, and polyisoprene, and any mixtures thereof; and

titanium particles less than 50 microns in size, the titanium particles comprising between 1 and 50 percent by weight of the composition;

the composition having a resilient, non-dispersing state at or below body temperature, and heatable to a fluid state above body temperature, such that the composition may be injected into the void while in the fluid state, thereafter returning to the resilient, non-dispersing state.

12. The composition as defined in claim 11, wherein the titanium particles comprise from 20 to 50 percent by weight of the composition.

13. The composition as defined in claim 11, wherein the titanium particles comprise elongate titanium whiskers.

14. The composition as defined in claim 11, wherein the titanium particles are less than about 20 microns in size.

15. The composition as defined in claim 11, further comprising a zinc additive up to 10 percent by weight of the composition.